
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

FISHERY UPDATE



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Date: May 8, 2013
Time: 3:30 p.m.

PETERSBURG/WRANGELL HERRING UPDATE #16

The department conducted an aerial survey today, May 8, of the Hobart Bay/Port Houghton area between 6:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. The survey conditions were good with clear skies and calm winds.

Hobart Bay/Port Houghton

No schools or active herring spawn were observed during today's aerial survey. The number of marine mammals has decreased from the past few days; however, bird activity has increased as large groups of scoters have arrived in the area. The majority of active spawn occurred on Friday, May 3, around the entrance to the Sanctuary. To date, 2.4 nm of herring spawn has been recorded in the Hobart Bay/Port Houghton area. The next aerial survey has not been scheduled at the time of this update. The R/V Kestrel will be conducting a spawn deposition survey this week. Forecasts of mature spawning biomass for the 2013/2014 season will not be finalized until late this fall.

2013 Survey Herring Summary

Hobart Bay/Port Houghton

April 16	No herring activity, 71 sea lions, 2 whales, 100 scoters.
April 19	No herring activity, 102 sea lions, 550 scoters.
April 22	No herring activity, 81 sea lions, 1,500 scoters.
April 24	No herring activity, 31 sea lions.
April 27	No herring activity, 30 sea lions, 1,600 scoters.
April 30	No herring activity, 45 sea lions, 1,100 scoters.
May 2	¼ mile of active spawn, 85 sea lions, 1,550 scoters.
May 3	1.0 mile of active spawn, 117 sea lions, 2,250 scoters.
May 4	No herring activity, 27 sea lions, 5,500 scoters.
May 5	No herring activity, 32 sea lions, 5,500 scoters.
May 6	No herring activity, 28 sea lions, 5,500 scoters.
May 8	No herring activity, 13 sea lions, 11,200 scoters.

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

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